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SENATE }

REPORT  
No. 598

## ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION APPROPRIATION BILL, 1960

JULY 31, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Filed under authority of the order of the Senate of May 21, 1959

Mr. HAYDEN, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted  
the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 8283]

The Committee on Appropriations, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 8283) making appropriations for the Atomic Energy Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, and for other purposes, report the same to the Senate with various amendments and present herewith information relative to the changes made.

Amount of bill as passed House.....	\$2, 629, 114, 000
Amount of increase by Senate.....	51, 300, 000
Amount of bill as reported to Senate.....	2, 680, 414, 000
Amount of appropriations, 1959.....	2, 647, 335, 000
Amount of regular and supplemental estimates, 1960..	2, 687, 300, 000
The bill as reported to the Senate:	
Under the estimates for 1960.....	6, 886, 000
Over the appropriations for 1959.....	33, 079, 000

## GENERAL STATEMENT

The amount of increase recommended by the committee of \$51,300,000 consists of restorations for operating expenses totaling \$34,300,000, restorations for plant acquisition and construction of \$15,000,000, and the addition of \$2 million for transfer to the National Science Foundation.

Recommendations for the activities of the Commission are detailed in the following paragraphs:

## OPERATING EXPENSES

1959 appropriation-----	\$2,397,406,000
Estimate, 1960:	
Original estimate (H. Doc. 15)-----	\$2,502,000,000
Less reduction in H. Doc. 179-----	84,700,000
	2,417,300,000
House allowance-----	2,374,114,000
Committee recommendation-----	2,410,414,000
(In addition, reappropriation of \$133,100,000 was requested and is approved.)	

The committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,408,414,000 for "Operating expenses," which is a reduction of \$8,886,000 from the revised budget estimate of \$2,417,300,000. In addition, the committee recommends \$2 million for transfer to the National Science Foundation, or a total amount of \$2,410,414,000.

The restorations recommended, in the amount of \$34,300,000, are itemized in the following comparative table:

Program	Appropriation 1959	Budget estimate, 1960	House allowance	Restorations recommended	Senate bill
Raw materials-----	\$702,100,000	\$738,600,000	\$738,000,000		\$738,000,000
Special nuclear materials--	545,000,000	568,000,000	563,000,000	\$2,000,000	565,000,000
Weapons program-----	480,000,000	495,000,000	495,000,000		495,000,000
Reactor development-----	342,000,000	407,400,000	397,400,000	10,000,000	407,400,000
Physical research-----	119,000,000	153,280,000	143,000,000	8,000,000	151,000,000
Biology and medicine-----	43,242,000	49,000,000	49,000,000		49,000,000
Training, education, and information-----	13,700,000	14,800,000	13,500,000	200,000	13,700,000
Civilian applications of isotopes and nuclear explosives-----	5,700,000	14,100,000	9,000,000	5,100,000	14,100,000
Community-----	16,792,000	15,666,000	15,666,000		15,666,000
Program direction and administration-----	49,803,000	52,000,000	52,000,000		52,000,000
Security investigation-----	7,506,000	7,390,000	7,390,000		7,380,000
Other costs-----	6,585,000	5,673,000	5,673,000		5,673,000
Selected resources-----	36,408,950	60,906,000	50,000,000	9,000,000	59,000,000
Less revenues applied-----	-28,720,000	-31,415,000	-31,415,000		-31,415,000
Total obligations-----	2,339,116,950	2,550,400,000	2,507,214,000	+34,300,000	2,541,514,000
Adjusted for unobligated balances-----	+58,289,050	-133,100,000	-133,100,000		-133,100,000
AEC appropriation required-----	2,397,406,000	2,417,300,000	2,374,114,000	+34,300,000	2,408,414,000
Added by Senate for transfer to National Science Foundation-----					2,000,000
Total amount in Senate bill-----					2,410,414,000

The National Science Foundation is in the second year of a plan to provide partial assistance to universities in acquiring or constructing nuclear research reactors, and requested \$2 million to permit support for a low-energy high-precision Van de Graaff nuclear accelerator. On this request, the House report on the independent offices appropriation bill stated:

Last year funds for university nuclear research equipment were provided by the Atomic Energy Commission, and if they are deemed necessary in 1960 they should be provided in the same way.

The conference report on that bill also states that funds are not included for that purpose. The committee believes that it is necessary to continue the program in order to supplement the Commission's existing program of providing training reactors, and recommends adding \$2 million with a provision for transfer of that amount to the National Science Foundation.

#### RESTORATIONS FOR OPERATING EXPENSES

*Special nuclear materials.*—The committee recommends the restoration of \$2 million in the special nuclear materials program. The committee agrees with the House that none of the reduction made in this program is applicable to the funds justified for the process development activity in the amount of \$36,900,000.

*Reactor development.*—The committee recommends the restoration of \$10 million, to provide the full budget estimate of \$407,400,000 for reactor development. After hearing detailed testimony as to the activities planned, the committee believes it is essential to provide such full amount in order to vigorously pursue both civilian and military reactor activities.

*Physical research.*—The committee recommends the restoration of \$8 million, to provide the amount of \$151 million for physical research.

The committee believes it is essential to avoid delay in assembling the scientific personnel and equipment required for the operation of the accelerators now nearing completion at Cambridge, Mass., and Princeton, N.J., and to assure full utilization of the existing accelerators at various universities. The committee agrees with the House that some reductions can be made in other off-site contracts through priority schedules.

*Training, education, and information.*—Restoration of \$200,000 is recommended for this program, to provide a total amount of \$13,700,000, the level for fiscal year 1959.

*Civilian applications of isotopes and nuclear explosives.*—Restoration of \$5,100,000 is recommended by the committee for this program, to provide the full budget estimate of \$14,100,000. The two activities involved, begun in 1959, are the isotope development program, in the amount of \$6,100,000, and the plowshare program, in the amount of \$8 million. The isotope development activity is for the application of isotopes to industrial processes, with widespread understanding by industry of the techniques being developed for industrial application. The plowshare activity is for determining the feasibility of using nuclear explosives for such peacetime purposes as

excavation of harbors and canals, recovery of oil from deep-lying shale and tar sands, production of isotopes and generation of power. The committee believes it is important that these activities should go forward in the development of potential uses, although recognizing that eventually industry should provide the major fund support.

*Selected resources.*—Restoration of \$9 million is recommended by the committee, to provide a total amount of \$59 million for selected resources, which covers goods and services on order at the end of the fiscal year for delivery in subsequent years. The major item involved is \$27,500,000 for contracting for space in test reactors, and the committee is advised that, while plans for utilization of this amount have not been finalized, it is essential that the funds be available if the Commission is to contract for such space.

#### PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS FROM STOCKPILE INVENTORIES

The committee expresses concern over the various plans thus far advanced toward orderly liquidation of the strategic and similar stockpiles of critical materials, including the Defense Production Act inventory. In this regard, the committee notes that the House committee has directed in its report that procedures be established whereby fiscal year 1960 aluminum requirements for the Atomic Energy Commission would be furnished from the Defense Production Act inventory rather than being procured from industry.

While in accord with the purpose of the House committee language, insofar as it reflects a desire on the part of the House to stimulate efforts to liquidate Government-owned holdings of metals and similar materials, the committee cannot concur in the House recommendation.

As an indication of the complexities encountered in this area, the General Manager of the Atomic Energy Commission has pointed out that the Defense Production Act inventory of aluminum is in fairly basic form, i.e., pigs, ingots, or their equivalent, while—

Atomic Energy Commission requirements for material in this particular form are relatively minor, the bulk of (our) needs being for finished, fabricated, or semifabricated shapes.

The committee fears that any piecemeal approach toward the liquidation of stockpile and Defense Production Act inventory acquisitions could adversely affect domestic and world metals markets, and perhaps the national defense.

Testimony before congressional committees by officials of the executive branch indicates that substantive legislation concerning the problems of Defense Production Act inventory disposals, along with liquidation of critical and related stockpile holdings, is presently under consideration by the executive branch. Consequently, the committee feels that the Atomic Energy Commission should take no action relative to the utilization of Government-owned aluminum until Congress has had an opportunity to consider this legislation.

The committee expects the executive branch to submit legislation to accomplish these purposes to the Congress as soon as practicable.



## PLANT ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

1959 appropriation.....		\$249, 929, 000
Estimate, 1960:		
Original estimate (H. Doc. 15).....	\$102, 000, 000	
Budget amendment in H.Doc. 179.....	168, 000, 000	
		270, 000, 000
House allowance.....		255, 000, 000
Committee recommendation.....		270, 000, 000

The committee recommends restoration of \$15 million, to provide the full amount of the budget estimate of \$270 million. The committee is advised that, while there is also available an unobligated balance of \$152,216,000, the amount of \$128,711,000 is to cover projects previously funded but not fully contracted for in 1959, and only \$23,505,000 would be available for other projects in 1960. The committee believes it is essential to provide the full amount, to avoid delaying the projects planned for 1960.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL 1959, AND THE ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 1960**

Item	Appropriations, 1959	Budget estimate, 1960	Recommended in House bill for 1960	Amount recommended by Senate committee	Increase (+) or decrease (–) Senate bill compared with—		
					Appropriations, 1959	Budget estimates, 1960	House bill
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION							
Operating expenses.....	\$2,397,406,000	\$2,417,300,000	\$2,374,114,000	\$2,410,414,000	+\$13,008,000	–\$6,886,000	+\$36,300,000
Plant acquisition and construction.....	249,929,000	270,000,000	255,000,000	270,000,000	+20,071,000	-----	+15,000,000
Total, direct appropriations.....	2,647,335,000	2,687,300,000	2,629,114,000	2,680,414,000	+33,079,000	–6,886,000	+51,300,000
Add: Indefinite appropriations of receipts.....	28,720,000	31,415,000	31,415,000	31,415,000	+2,695,000	-----	-----
Total available.....	2,676,055,000	2,718,715,000	2,660,529,000	2,711,829,000	+35,774,000	–6,886,000	+51,300,000

<sup>1</sup> In addition, reappropriation of \$133,100,000 available.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, prior year unobligated balance of \$152,216,000 available.

